No.: 09/655,394

REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 7, 9, 12, 14, 15 and 17 is acknowledged

and appreciated. In order to expedite issuance of the present application, all rejected claims have

been canceled without prejudice/disclaimer to the subject matter embodied thereby, leaving only the

allowed claims pending. Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action,

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is

respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or

an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone

number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby

made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit

account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 10, 2006

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